

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 24 December 2004 (24.12.2004)
original claims 1 and 2 have been amended]

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Furniture system (1) which is composed of at least first and second rectangular panel-shaped elements (2, 3, 12, 13), with a first and a second panel-shaped element (2, 3, 12, 13) in each case positioned at an angle with respect to one another and each panel-shaped element (2, 3, 12, 13) comprising two bearing surfaces and end sides which connect the bearing surfaces, the panel-shaped elements being assembled to form a furniture system using connecting elements, characterized in that the connecting elements are tie rods (15, 16), at least part of which runs parallel to the panel-shaped elements (2, 3, 12, 13), the tie rods (15, 16) connecting the panel-shaped elements (2, 3, 12, 13, 22, 23) in an indirect connection where each panel-shaped element (2, 3, 12, 13, 22, 23) bears by means of one said end sides against a coupling part (14, 24) and the tie rods (15, 16) ensure that the respective bearing surfaces of the end side and the coupling part (14, 24) bear against one another.
2. Furniture system (1) according to claim 1 characterized in that the coupling part (14, 24) has protuberances (24a) at the corners, which bear against the two bearing surfaces of the corresponding panel-shaped element (22, 23).
3. Furniture system (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that the coupling part (14, 24) and the end side of the panel-shaped element (12, 13, 22, 23) which bears against it are of the same length and the tie rods (15, 16) run inside cavities (6a, 6b, 7a, 7b) which are left clear inside the corresponding panel-shaped element.
4. Furniture system (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that the coupling part (34) is of a greater length than the end side of the panel-shaped element (32) which bears against it, and the tie rods (35) run outside the corresponding panel-shaped element (32).